

the investigation, including prompt compliance with outstanding document requests and full cooperation with the efforts of the Committee on International Relations to convene a briefing with State Department officials on this matter.

(2) The GAO should consider taking enforcement action against the Administration for any continuing failure to provide requested documents.

(3) The Administration should provide to the GAO the full text of any documents, policy papers or memorandums that it has agreed to make available to any other member country of the United Nations General Assembly.

(4) The Administration should cooperate fully with the GAO and with Congress in their efforts to oversee future United States participation in United Nations or other multilateral peacekeeping operations.

HONORING RON HASKINS

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, as the 106th Congress comes to a close, my colleague Mr. SHAW and I pay tribute to Dr. Ron Haskins, Staff Director of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources. Ron will leave the Committee at the end of this year and he will be sorely missed by the Members of the Committee and the many staff who have worked with him over the years.

Since joining the Ways and Means staff in 1986, Ron's hard work, intelligence, quick thinking, and unique personality have made him a strong force in the Congressional process as we have worked to improve the lives of children and families. His ability to truly understand the diverse points of view of people intensely interested in a problem has made action possible where others would have failed.

Once he became Staff Director in 1995, Ron put his extensive knowledge of the nation's welfare system to use by working with Chairman E. CLAY SHAW to develop and pass legislation overhauling the system. Despite two Presidential vetoes, Ron successfully urged Republican Members to continue to push for welfare reform. On August 22, 1996, the welfare reform bill finally became law (P.L. 104-193). The sweep of this reform has been spectacular, resulting in dramatically reduced child poverty, increased numbers of working single parents, and families living improved lives with both more income and real hope.

Three years later in 1999 the Speaker of the House, J. DENNIS HASTERT, spoke of the accomplishments of welfare reform: "we've broken the mold from a lifestyle of generational welfare dependency. In turn, we've created a path to the American dream which holds more personal security and more control for individuals over their own lives."

In 1999, Representative NANCY L. JOHNSON took over as Subcommittee Chair. Since then Ron has continued to have a major role in developing important legislation including the Foster Care Independence Act (P.L. 106-

169), the Fathers Count Act of 1999 (H.R. 3073), and the Child Support Distribution Act of 2000 (H.R. 4678). The positive influence of Ron's presence here on Capital Hill will be felt long after he's moved on to new endeavors and by millions of families who will never know his name.

Before joining the Committee staff, Ron was a U.S. Marine, a high school teacher, and a professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In addition to working for the Committee, Ron is a devoted father and husband, a prolific writer, an outstanding public speaker, a man of strong principles, one of the most honest people either of us has ever met, and a true friend.

As he embarks on the next chapter of his life, we wish Ron well and know that he will be a great success in any endeavor he undertakes. We will always be grateful to him for his fine service, his good cheer, his high energy, and his excellent advice.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE REPUBLICAN CONGRESS

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have decided to do a little distortion for Halloween about the record of the Republican-led Congress. Let's make a comparison based on the facts.

As we all remember, the Democrat-led 103rd Congress was a not a success for public health in this country. As Congressional Quarterly noted, "Clinton" had presented his health care plan—crafted under the direction of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in a massive, secret and much-criticized task force process . . . the bill was immensely complex. . . . The committee system, designed to resolve both the policy and political problems of legislation, broke down entirely . . . For all their work, not one committee had managed to write a health care bill that the leadership was willing to bring to the floor. . . ."

With the Democrat leadership resorting to scare tactics in the past few days, it might bode well for the American people to remember their record.

The Republican-led Congress has been active and provided real public health improvements for the American people. In the prior two Congresses, we have empowered states and localities to meet the health care and nutritional needs of two-income residents, and provided relief to those hardest hit by the AIDS epidemic. We provided portability so working Americans can change jobs without risking the loss of their health care insurance due to a preexisting condition. This was a fundamental change that the Democrats weren't able to get done on their watch.

Our Republican led Congress has also reined in health care fraud and abuse, eliminated tax code discrimination against millions of small businesses and the self-employed and provided tax relief for the long-term health

care needs of terminally ill patients and their families. We enhanced Americans' access to safe, abundant, and affordable food and water. In the Food and Drug Modernization Act of 1997, we enacted measures which have significantly cut down the waiting time at the FDA for approval of new medicines. As a result, many patients will have access to life saving drugs much quicker. Our Republican Congress also passed landmark legislation in 1997 that established the Medicare+Choice Program and the State Children's Health Insurance Program. Under our legislation, low-income children will have expanded access to quality health care coverage. Democrats talked about that for years; it took a Republican Congress to make it happen.

We enhanced the Birth Defects Prevention Program, reauthorized the National Bone Marrow Registry, reauthorized Mammography Quality Standards, and enhanced Women's Health Research and Prevention.

That's a pretty strong record for public health.

Now let's look at the 106th Congress. Here are a number of public health provisions that are already enacted into law: the Nursing Home Resident Protection Amendments, and the Medicare, Medicaid, & SCHIP Balanced Budget Refinement Act. Under this Act—

Hospitals received an additional \$7.3 billion; Skilled nursing facilities received over \$2 billion;

Home health agencies received an additional \$1.3 billion;

Health plans participating in the Medicare+Choice program received an additional \$1.9 billion;

Nearly \$1 billion in additional monies were provided for the Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Programs; and,

\$150 million was provided to ensure that organ transplant recipients could continue to receive access to immunosuppressive drugs.

We also enacted into law the Health Research and Quality Act, and the Work Incentives Improvement Act. This law was sponsored by Mr. LAZIO and expands the availability of health care coverage for workers with disabilities. Add to this list the Date-Rape Prevention Drug Act and the Children's Health Act of 2000, which increases and intensifies research on and programs for autism, juvenile diabetes, asthma, prevention of birth defects, epilepsy, infant health, pediatric research, skeletal malignancies, adoption awareness, healthy start, traumatic injuries and autoimmune diseases. This Act also reauthorizes the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and improves drug addiction treatment programs.

Add to this list the Ryan White CARE Act of 2000, which provides funding for those suffering with AIDS, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act, and the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000.

Those bills that have already been enacted are a solid record but we have even more that are sent or being sent to the President. This includes the Public Health Improvements Act. This bill was sent to the President containing the following provisions which are bipartisan efforts:

Public Health Threats and Emergencies Act;